

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7283

BILL NUMBER: SB 245

NOTE PREPARED: Apr 8, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Owen Circuit Court Magistrate.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Bray

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Welch

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☐ **DEDICATED**
☐ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

STATE IMPACT	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
State Revenues			
State Expenditures		28,888	28,888
Net Increase (Decrease)		(28,888)	(28,888)

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows the judge of the Owen Circuit Court to appoint a full-time magistrate to replace a court-appointed referee. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Commission on Courts.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Owen Circuit Court currently is permitted under Small Claims Rule 14 of the Indiana Rules of Court to appoint a small claims referee. Currently, this small claims referee receives \$47,500 in salary from the state General Fund and benefits. Under this bill, if the Owen Circuit Court is permitted to appoint a magistrate, it would no longer be permitted to appoint a small claims referee.

The added costs to the state General Fund would be \$28,888 when including the incremental increase in salary and fringe benefits. The current salary of a magistrate is \$72,000. These fringe benefits are based on a percentage of the person's salary.

Added Costs for Magistrate	
Salary	\$24,500
Life Insurance	\$88
Social Security	\$1,874
PERF	\$1,960
Disability Insurance	\$466
Total Costs	\$28,888

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Office of State Court Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Owen Circuit Court.

Information Sources: Indiana Rules of Court; Office of State Court Administration.

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